

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A charging device for use in an image forming apparatus, comprising:

5 a discharging electrode to be supplied with a high voltage;

a stabilizer plate having an opening on a side to be opposed to a charge target member and accommodating said discharging electrode; and

10 a grid arranged in said opening of said stabilizer plate and to be supplied with a grid voltage, wherein

at least one of said discharging electrode, said stabilizer plate and said grid is made of an electrically conductive material containing 30 % or more of nickel by weight.

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2. The charging device according to claim 1, wherein said conductive material is an alloy containing nickel and iron.

20 3. The charging device according to claim 1, wherein said conductive material has a nickel content of 40 wt % or more.

4. The charging device according to claim 1, wherein

said conductive material has a Young's modulus of  
110 KN/mm<sup>2</sup> or more.

5. The charging device according to claim 1, wherein  
5        said grid and said stabilizer plate are to have same  
potential, and the grid is made of the conductive  
material containing 30 % or more of nickel by weight.

6. The charging device according to claim 2, wherein  
10        said conductive material further includes chromium.

7. The charging device according to claim 4, wherein  
      said conductive material has a Young's modulus from  
110 KN/mm<sup>2</sup> to 240 KN/mm<sup>2</sup>.

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8. A charging device for use in an image forming  
apparatus, comprising:

      a discharging electrode to be supplied with a high  
voltage;

20        a stabilizer plate having an opening on a side to be  
opposed to a charge target member and accommodating said  
discharging electrode; and

      a grid arranged in said opening of said stabilizer  
plate and to be supplied with a grid voltage, wherein

at least one member of said discharging electrode,  
said stabilizer plate and said grid is plated with nickel  
or platinum at a rate from 30 % to 80 % by weight with  
respect to whole weight of the plated member.

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9. The charging device according to claim 8, wherein  
a base body of said plated member is made of an  
alloy containing nickel and iron.

10 10. The charging device according to claim 8,  
wherein

said grid and said stabilizer plate are to have same  
potential, and a base body of the grid is plated with  
nickel or platinum at a rate from 30 % to 80 % by weight  
15 with respect to whole weight of the plated grid.

11. An image forming apparatus comprising an image  
carrying member, a discharging device for charging said  
image carrying member, an exposing device for exposing a  
20 charged surface of the image carrying member to form an  
electrostatic latent image, and a developing device for  
developing said electrostatic latent image with developer,  
wherein

said charging device includes:

a discharging electrode extending over a length corresponding to a size of the image carrying member and to be supplied with a high voltage,

a stabilizer plate having an opening on a side  
5 opposed to the image carrying member and accommodating the discharging electrode, and

a grid arranged in said opening of said stabilizer plate and to be supplied with a grid voltage, and

at least one of said discharging electrode, said  
10 stabilizer plate and said grid is made of an electrically conductive material containing 30 % or more of nickel by weight.

12. The image forming apparatus to claim 11, wherein  
15 said conductive material is an alloy containing nickel and iron.

13. The image forming apparatus according to claim  
11, wherein  
20 said conductive material has a nickel content of 40 wt % or more.

14. The image forming apparatus according to claim  
11, wherein

said conductive material has a Young's modulus of  
110 KN/mm<sup>2</sup> or more.

15. The image forming apparatus according to claim  
5 11, wherein

said grid and said stabilizer plate are to have same  
potential, and a base body of the grid is made of a  
conductive material containing 30 % or more of nickel by  
weight.

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16. The image forming apparatus according to claim  
12, wherein

said conductive material further includes chromium.

15 17. The image forming apparatus according to claim  
14, wherein

said conductive material has a Young's modulus from  
110 KN/mm<sup>2</sup> to 240 KN/mm<sup>2</sup>.

20 18. An image forming apparatus comprising an image  
carrying member, a discharging device for charging said  
image carrying member, an exposing device for exposing a  
charged surface of the image carrying member to form an  
electrostatic latent image, and a developing device for

developing said electrostatic latent image with developer,  
wherein

said charging device includes:

a discharging electrode extending over a length  
5 corresponding to a size of the image carrying member and  
to be supplied with a high voltage,

a stabilizer plate having an opening on a side  
opposed to the image carrying member and accommodating  
the discharging electrode, and

10 a grid arranged in said opening of said stabilizer  
plate and to be supplied with a grid voltage, and

at least one member of said discharging electrode,  
said stabilizer plate and said grid is plated with nickel  
or platinum at a rate from 30 % to 80 % by weight with  
15 respect to whole weight of the plated member.

19. The image forming apparatus according to claim  
18, wherein

a base body of said plated member is made of an  
20 alloy containing nickel and iron.

20. The image forming apparatus according to claim  
18, wherein

said grid and said stabilizer plate are to have same  
25 potential, and a base body of the grid is plated with

nickel or platinum at a rate from 30 % to 80 % by weight  
with respect to whole weight of the plated grid..